

IV.A. Narrative Information Sheet

1. Applicant Identification:
WVU Research Corporation
PO Box 6845 / 886 Chestnut Ridge Road
Morgantown, 26506
2. Funding Requested:
 - a. Assessment Grant Type - Coalition
 - b. Federal Funds Requested:
 - i. \$,599,992
 - ii. No need for site-specific Assessment Grant waiver of the \$200,000 limit.
 - c. Contamination: Hazardous substances
3. Location: Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia
4. Property Information for Site-Specific Proposals: Not applicable
5. Contacts
 - a. Project Director
Patrick Kirby
(304) 293-6984
patrick.kirby@mail.wvu.edu
PO Box 6064
Morgantown, WV 26501
 - b. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official
John Childress
304-293-6709
wvusponsoredprograms@mail.wvu.edu and john.childress@mail.wvu.edu
PO Box 6845
Morgantown, WV 26506
6. Population
 - Ohio – 11,689,442
 - Pennsylvania – 12,807,060
 - West Virginia – 1,805,832

7. Other Factors Checklist:

Other Factors	Page #
Community population is 10,000 or less.	2
The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.	
The priority brownfield site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land.	1,2
The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the border of the priority site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street, road, or other public thoroughfare separating them).	2
The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.	
The redevelopment of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy; or any energy efficiency improvement projects.	3
30% or more of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse planning activities for priority brownfield site(s) within the target area.	

8. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority –

This project will take place in three states: West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. Letters from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency are appended.



west virginia department of environmental protection

Office of Environmental Remediation
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Phone: 304-926-0455

Austin Caperton, Cabinet Secretary
dep.wv.gov

January 3, 2019

Mr. Patrick Kirby, Director
Northern WV Brownfields Assistance Center
WV Water Research Institute, NRCCE Building
385 Evansdale Drive, Room 201
PO Box 6064
Morgantown, WV 26506

RE: EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Kirby,

Thank you for your continued efforts to further enhance the state's environment and economy by applying for a U.S. EPA Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant. The proposed Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition (IHTC) network connection and expansion project is an exciting opportunity to provide additional recreational areas to citizens, as well as invite trail users from neighboring and connecting states into our own. This grant is vital to ensuring that IHTC's vision is completed both safely and expeditiously.

As you prepare your application for this funding, the WVDEP Office of Environmental Remediation is in full support of your efforts. We are committed to assisting you assess, remediate, and redevelop abandoned railways and adjacent properties into recreational trails and trail-oriented redevelopment. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or needs.

Sincerely,

Casey E. Korbini
Deputy Director for Remediation Programs



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

January 8, 2019

Patrick Kirby

Director

Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Centers

West Virginia Water Research Institute, NRCCE Building

385 Evansdale Drive, Room 201, PO Box 6064

Morgantown, PA 26506

RE: USEPA Brownfields Assessment Proposal | State Letter of Acknowledgement
Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition
Several Counties in Western Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania

Mr. Kirby:

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is pleased to support your efforts to redevelop brownfield properties in our communities. Returning underutilized lands to productive use improves our environment, safeguards our residents, and helps boost Pennsylvania's economy.

The DEP supports Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition's (IHTC) application for a \$600,000 Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for hazardous substances. The coalition's goal is to build and connect trails from Lake Erie to Pittsburgh and on to the Ohio rivers and foothills of the Appalachian Mountain range in West Virginia. The funds will be used for assessment and planning of trails and adjacent properties throughout the IHTC corridor in West Virginia, Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania.

The IHTC's work creates recreational corridors in Pennsylvania. There is environmental and economic value in completing this trail network and adjacent properties. DEP staff provided input on proposal development. Abandoned railways and adjacent brownfield sites are good candidates for PA DEP's Voluntary Cleanup Program. Both Central Office and Regional Office Staff in the Land Recycling Program look forward to supporting Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center and USEPA Region 3 on this project.

If you have any questions, please contact John Gross by email at johngross@pa.gov or by telephone at 717-783-7502.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy Conrad".

Troy Conrad

Director

Bureau Environmental Cleanups and Brownfields



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

December 27, 2018

Patrick Kirby, Director
Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center
West Virginia Water Research Institute
West Virginia University
P.O. Box 6065
Morgantown, WV 26501

RE: Industrial Heartland Trails Brownfield Assessment Coalition US EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Patrick:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) is pleased to participate in a coalition with the Northern West Virginia Brownfield Assistance Center (NBAC) and Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) to submit a Coalition Assessment Grant proposal. The Coalition is requesting a \$600,000 coalition grant to address hazardous substance and/or petroleum contaminated brownfield sites located on a network of abandoned railway corridors designated by the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition (IHTC). This opportunity will be used to transform the region into a tourism destination through the cleanup and redevelopment of the network corridors as a rail-trail system.

Ohio EPA has an established brownfield assistance program that has supported local community projects through outreach, targeted brownfield assessments, and technical assistance. Our Voluntary Action Program provides applicable standards and a regulatory end point for brownfield cleanups. We routinely collaborate with the various funding sources in Ohio to leverage assistance for brownfield projects.

Ohio EPA utilizes its US EPA 128(a) grant funds to provide brownfield assistance to communities and their priority projects. Direct assistance is provided by environmental contractors retained by the State of Ohio to perform Phase I/II assessments, geophysical screening, asbestos surveys, and remedial action planning. These tools are used to provide due diligence for property transactions, determination of contaminant impacts at a property, and cleanup options to assist local decision makers on their brownfield projects. Many of projects have successfully leveraged cleanup funds from Ohio's Abandoned Gas Station program, Jobs Ohio Revitalization, Ohio Brownfield Fund, and US EPA Brownfield Grants.

Ohio has an established rail to trail system that provides connectivity and improved quality of life both within and between communities. This proposal will share this success with the

communities of eastern Ohio and Appalachia where local governments and organizations lack the capacity to request funding and implement brownfield projects on their own. Furthermore, our brownfield program has recent experience with rail-trail redevelopment in the region. We provided assessments for a railway property acquisition near Belpre, Ohio and to support the preservation of the historic 1870 sandstone viaduct in Bellaire, Ohio. We want to continue to build on the success of these projects.

Over the last two years, Ohio EPA completed 25 investigations at former gas station sites utilizing state and federal funding including 128a state response grants and a US EPA, FFY16 Community-Wide \$200,000 assessment grant (now depleted). Each assessment project can leverage up to \$100,000 for assessment or \$500,000 for cleanup from the AGS program. To date, these projects have successfully leveraged over \$2.2 million in cleanup funding. Abandoned gas stations along the railway corridor could potentially take advantage of these funds as well. The Clean Ohio Fund for Recreational Trails is an additional funding source in Ohio for land acquisition and trail development.

Ohio EPA fully supports NBAC's application for this grant. We will participate with coalition members to establish site priorities, assessment support, remedial/end use planning, and community outreach. Ohio EPA will work with NBAC to establish a memorandum of agreement should a grant be awarded.

We look forward to working with the coalition to address brownfield properties in eastern Ohio. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my brownfield staff: Lisa Shook at (614) 644-2295 or Dan Tjoelker at (614) 644-3750.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig W. Butler", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Craig W. Butler, Director
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Narrative/Ranking Criteria

1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

a. Target Area and Brownfields

i. Background and Description of Target Area

Since 2013, an assemblage of over 25 organizations and agencies have been working on a collective vision, the *Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition* (I♥Trails), a 1,531-mile network of trails spanning 51 counties in Appalachia throughout Western Pennsylvania (PA), Eastern Ohio (OH), and Northcentral West Virginia (WV). This trail system will be a national destination trail network that will bring consistent economic impact to the region by re-connecting communities via recreational trails along abandoned railroad corridors to support local economies and provide an increased quality of life. I♥Trails corridors were formerly used by railroad companies to transport materials including steel, coal, and commodities to distribution facilities, power plants, manufacturing facilities, and markets, with Pittsburgh, PA as a distribution hub for much of this activity. The decline in coal and steel industries has led to the loss of associated jobs and has left the formerly bustling railroad network as vacant and potentially contaminated brownfields. However, the infrastructure and ownership structure of the network of properties provides the opportunity to transform the region into a tourism destination through redevelopment as a rail-trail system. I♥Trails is comprised of 5 abandoned railway corridors spanning from Pittsburgh with additional connections between the corridors. 716 of the 1,531 miles of proposed I♥Trails have already been developed into trails. I♥Trails efforts are led by the Rails to Trails Conservancy; the PA Environmental Council (PEC); and the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, who have developed a vision and continue to coordinate the effort through quarterly meetings, semi-annual summits, communication tools and the website Ihearttrails.org.

The Northern WV Brownfields Assistance Center (NBAC) participated in creating the I♥Trails concept and has helped trail project champions in WV with the brownfield assessment, planning, and cleanup process since 2005. In reusing rails and adjacent sites for recreation and commerce, environmental issues related to sites' industrial legacies are a key impediment to project success. Local champions' understanding of environmental liability and the need for remediation is essential to close the gaps in the trail network and ensure the long-term safety of the end users.

The Trails Assessment Coalition Project (TAC Project), outlined in this proposal, will support I♥Trails' efforts through education and assistance with assessment and remediation planning of trails and adjacent brownfield sites. NBAC, the Applicant, together with PEC and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) are identified as "Coalition Partners" or the "TAC Project Team" throughout this proposal. The TAC Project will target: 1) abandoned rail corridors that have been identified as I♥Trails gaps, and 2) brownfield properties adjacent to existing or proposed trails in the network. The Target Area for the TAC Project includes: WV's Wood, Ritchie, Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, and Monongalia Counties; OH's Ashtabula, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Harrison, Jefferson, Lake, Mahoning, Monroe, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, and Tuscarawas Counties; and PA's Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Greene, Fayette, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, Warren, Washington, and Westmoreland counties.

ii. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s)

Brownfield sites that create and are adjacent to I♥Trails include decommissioned railways and adjacent sites which previously supported the steel, coal, and other manufacturing and natural

resource industries. These sites frequently have contamination related to coal, diesel fuel, and herbicides including arsenic, lead, and various polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

A priority site for the TAC Project is the North Bend Extension (NBE), in Clarksburg, WV, a 6-mile I♥Trails gap spanning approximately 21-acres,. The NBE (the Site) was formerly a railroad used by the coal, glass, and timber industries. In pursuit of the I♥Trails vision, WV’s Harrison County Commission has negotiated a sale price with the Site owner, CSX, Inc., and has obtained funding from the WV Division of Highways to acquire the Site for development as a trail that will extend the existing 72-mile North Bend Trail 6 miles, connecting it to Downtown Clarksburg and residential areas. The NBE is adjacent to US Route 50, a 4-lane highway that has disjointed Clarksburg and other communities, increasing residents’ reliance on automobiles for local transportation. Based on recent data available on USEPA’s EnviroAtlas Application, census tracts containing the NBE (WV tracts 306.01 and 307), are in the highest bracket for “Population Near Major Roadway with Little to No Tree Buffer”, “Residential Population within 300 M of Busy Roadway”, and “Road Density”. EnviroAtlas also demonstrates that these census tracts have zero “Percent of Workers Who Bike or Walk to Work”, 0% of “Households with Zero Vehicles”, and 90% and 69% of “Households Below the Quality of Life Threshold”. The completion of the NBE extension will have a significant positive local impact, creating a means for installing a tree buffer and for local workers to walk or bike to work. Trails will also provide recreational options, improving residents’ quality of life and enabling households to function without a vehicle.

The TAC Project will assist Harrison County and champions of similar efforts by enabling the TAC Project Team to manage and fund the brownfield assessment and planning process. The expected process for NBE and other TAC Project sites includes: 1) Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) before transfer, 2) Phase II ESA and other sampling as required to meet CSX, Inc. or other site owner soil management criteria, and 3) Project management assistance.

Additional TAC Project Priority Brownfield Sites		
Location	Site and Description	End Use
Morgantown, WV: <i>Population 29,660</i>	Former Beaumont Glass Factory – 3 acres adjacent to Caperton Trail and Monongahela (Mon) River.	The City of Morgantown will reuse as public park/commercial space to benefit surrounding residential/commercial properties.
Fairmont, WV: <i>Population 18,704</i>	West Fork River Trail to Mon River Trail Connector, a 5-mile inactive railway for which Marion County Parks and Recreation Commission has secured acquisition funding	Redevelopment as a rail-trail, creating a 5-mile linear park along the Mon River in Fairmont, linking the city to 60 miles of trail with endpoints in nearby cities.
Emlenton, PA: <i>Population 625</i>	43-acre former refinery/wax plant, has been remediated to industrial standards, adjacent to the Allegheny River and Trail, currently fenced off with “Stay on Trail” signage.	Proposed for recreation and related businesses to promote recreational use of the trail and Allegheny River.
Bellaire, OH: <i>Population 4,278</i>	5.2-acre stone rail bridge and railyard property, currently owned by the Great Stone Viaduct Historic Preservation Society (GSVHPS), with historic sandstone arches.	GSVHPS will preserve arches and establish a visitor center and museum on the site.

b. Revitalization of the Target Area

i. Redevelopment Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans

I♥Trails shares a vision for the Target Area to become a national tourism destination, a 1,500-mile trail network lined with commercial amenities along an identified network of abandoned railways. Coalition Partner entities share the I♥Trails vision as a worthwhile effort that will help achieve each entities' respective mission: improving WV's economy through brownfield revitalization for NBAC, environmental advocacy in PA for PEC, and brownfield revitalization in OH for OEPA. Since 2011, the Claude W. Benedum Foundation and George Gund Foundation have contributed close to \$2 million for coordination and planning to close the remaining 750 miles of I♥Trails gaps. The "Parkersburg to Pittsburgh Feasibility Study", completed by the Rails to Trails Conservancy in the Spring of 2018, includes proposed trail alignments, needed infrastructure, and cost estimates for proposed development, and is serving as a guide for connecting 23 gap miles that will link to 124 miles of developed rail-trail. Similar Feasibility Studies (FS) are under way for other corridors that link in to the I♥Trails system: The Rails to Trails Conservancy's Cleveland to Pittsburgh FS began in 2018, and PEC's Erie to Pittsburgh and PA Wilds Loop FS will begin in 2019. These completed plans will provide a guide that is being adopted by communities in the Target Area.

Relating to projects highlighted in the *Description of the Priority Brownfield Sites*, the Harrison County Commission, City of Fairmont, Marion County Commission, and the City of Morgantown in WV, as well as the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance in PA have submitted resolutions in support of I♥Trails and are developing trail gaps and revitalizing adjacent properties in their communities. Over 20 other municipalities and groups in the Target Area have submitted resolutions in support of I♥Trails and are working to develop trail gaps and/or related amenities.

ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Redevelopment Strategy

The TAC Project will assist I♥Trails' efforts to create a regional tourist destination and center for economic development through the conversion of unused brownfield properties into trails. The TAC Project will stimulate economic development by helping I♥Trails project champions through initial steps of the brownfield process. The I♥Trails effort will link to and expand existing parks and greenways with connections between them while advancing the development of pedestrian/bike infrastructure in urban and rural areas, alleviating automobile reliance, particularly for sensitive populations, providing alternative transportation options and a recreational asset.

c. Strategy for Leveraging Resources

i. Resources Needed for Site Reuse

The TAC Project Team currently assists I♥Trails' local champions to pursue funding and other resources to assess, remediate, plan, redevelop, and implement programming on properties in the Target Area. The TAC Project will eliminate environmental uncertainties and facilitate planning that will stimulate the transfer of trail and adjacent properties from current owners to entities looking to redevelop trail gaps and adjacent properties of I♥Trails. Local champion groups include municipalities and non-profits who are eligible for private and public grant funding, as well as private developers with the means to independently fund or finance development projects. In 2018, local entities secured \$1,338,000, for I♥Trails projects in WV and PA, \$343,000 of which was allocated for property acquisition where Environmental Site Assessments are needed.

Potential funding sources that will advance the current state of TAC Project priority sites include: US EPA Brownfields, US Department of Transportation (US DOT) BUILD Program, US DOT Transportation Alternatives Program, US DOT Recreational Trails Programs, Appalachian Regional Commission, PA's C2P2 and Act 13 programs, EQT Foundation, RK Mellon

Foundation, Hillman Foundation, The Laurel Foundation, and the Nimick-Forbes Foundation.

ii. Use of Existing Infrastructure

I♥Trails aims to utilize existing infrastructure on abandoned railways and adjacent properties in the Target Area, including: access points, bridges, abutments, fencing, land, utilities, and street crossings. The TAC Project will facilitate the reuse of this infrastructure by guiding local I♥Trails champions through the initial steps of the brownfield remediation and redevelopment process.

2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

a. Community Need

i. The Community's Need for Funding

Many municipalities and groups within the largely rural Target Area lack experience with brownfield project management and funding. Also, upfront assessment costs for purchasers' due diligence and the uncertainties of environmental liability often prevent public and private entities from acquiring brownfield sites. The TAC Project will provide assessment and planning funds to communities that lack brownfield resources, enabling brownfield redevelopment by eliminating environmental uncertainties of properties on and adjacent to I♥Trails, making prospects aware of environmental conditions of properties and the cleanup needed to make them safe for public use.

ii. Threats to Sensitive Populations

(1) Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations

Populations in areas without trails and adjacent commercial developments lack opportunities for exercise and human-powered transportation. Because railroads are typically less than 2% in slope, trails developed on former railways, like those planned by I♥Trails, provide opportunities for exercise and transportation to sensitive populations including children, pregnant women, and the elderly, providing designated walking/biking routes separated from the danger of collision and fumes imposed by automobiles. I♥Trails development will also provide walking/biking routes between residential, commercial, and public spaces, promoting energy efficiency and increasing the prospect of low-income residents to thrive without reliance on personal automobiles.

(2) Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions

Based on PEC's 2014 analysis of the 2010 US Census, 48 of the 51-county area within the I♥Trails footprint are above the national average obesity rate, with the lowest occurrence of obesity in Monongalia and Ohio Counties in WV, as well as Allegheny County in PA, 3 counties bisected or adjacent to completed sections of rail-trails. Obesity is a main contributor to diabetes. Instances of adult diabetes in the focus area is higher than the national average of 9.4%, with 13.5% in OH, 12.8% in PA, and 15.2% in WV. Access to recreational facilities is often cited as a critical step in combating the obesity epidemic, but many rural counties lack recreational amenities. The development of rail-trails in these counties will provide opportunities for exercise in areas that are clear of carcinogenic contaminants and are separate from the fumes imposed by automobile traffic.

(3) Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations

Recognizing the Target Area as a single organism, developed with glass factories, steel mills, coal processing facilities, and other establishments supporting workforces which managed natural resources, the railroad network was developed to connect these properties and serve as the Area's artery, moving the economic lifeblood: coal, steel, timber, and manufactured goods. Communities throughout the Target Area were developed around this industrial infrastructure, with housing and commercial areas near facilities that once provided homes and daily needs of local workforces. The decline of natural resource industries in the Target Area has left communities with an

industrial legacy of lifeless industrial properties and a lack of good jobs, contributing to an overall feeling of neglect and despair and an appetite for economic revitalization. I♥Trails has mobilized to capitalize on this industrial legacy and is working to bring new life to old infrastructure by reusing abandoned railways as recreational trails that will become centers for commercial development and arteries which move the Target Area's new lifeblood, people who will build a sustainable new economy based on recreation and commerce. The completed I♥Trails network will be a national tourist and recreational destination, creating a healthy new identity for the Target Area that will attract and retain permanent residents, businesses, and vacationers for many years.

b. Community Engagement

i. Community Involvement

The TAC Project is designed to support I♥Trails, an initiative that has received 25 support resolutions to date from Target Area municipalities, non-profits, and others and has engaged over 100 entities in planning events. Organizing entities of I♥Trails National Parks Service Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program; Rails to Trails Conservancy; and PEC are in support of the TAC Project and will integrate the TAC Project into existing I♥Trails community activities.

Upon notice of grant award, the Coalition Team will develop TAC Project materials, with project background and instructions for engagement and input, to share with local champions of Priority Brownfield Sites as well as I♥Trails' and Coalition Partners' networks via web blasts, press releases, and word of mouth. At that time, the Coalition Team will also begin convening monthly conference calls and quarterly meetings where the TAC Project Team will share updates and collaborate on the distribution of TAC Project resources in the Target Area. Each Coalition Partner will identify a Project Manager (PM) who will manage TAC Project activities on behalf of its state: NBAC for WV, PEC for PA, and OEPA for OH.

List of Project Partners

Partner Name	Point of contact	Specific role in the project
Rails to Trails Conservancy	Kelly Pack, Director of Trail Dev. kellyp@railstotrails.org 202-974-5148	I♥Trails organizer, will promote TAC Project and help prioritize TAC Project sites.
NPS Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program	Andrea Irland Andrea_Irland@nps.gov 440-717-3775	I♥Trails organizer, will promote TAC Project and help prioritize TAC Project sites.
WV Rail Trails Coalition	Ella Belling, President info@wvrailtrails.org 304-692-6782	Project management, local champion identification and prioritization participation
Harrison County Commission (WV)	Charlotte Shaffer, Planning Dir. cshaffer@harrisoncountywv.com 304-624-8692	Local champion of Priority Brownfield Site who benefit from TAC Project Resources
Marion County (WV) Parks and Recreation Commission	Tony Michalski TMski44@aol.com 304-363-7037	Local champion of Priority Brownfield Site who benefit from TAC Project Resources
Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance	Debra Frawley, Vice President dfrawley@pecpa.org 814-657-5242	Local champion of Priority Brownfield Site who benefit from TAC Project Resources

PMs will maintain contact with local champions via meetings, calls, and email communication,

as needed to support local efforts to acquire, develop, and maintain trails. PMs will direct assessment and planning activities in coordination with each state's voluntary cleanup program. Local champions of the TAC Project's Priority Brownfield Sites include the Harrison County Commission, the Marion County Parks and Recreation Commission, the City of Morgantown, and the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance, each of which has submitted resolutions in support of I♥Trails and is working to advance trail and adjacent property redevelopment. Coalition Partners will engage additional local champions through participation in I♥Trails activities and events, including state and national brownfields conferences. Staff representing the voluntary cleanup programs of OH, PA, and WV have been engaged in the development of the TAC Project and will play a key role in its implementation.

ii. Incorporating Community Input

A PM representing each Coalition Partner will be the liaison for local champions within their respective state, directing brownfield assessment and planning activities for identified and to be identified Priority Brownfield Sites in their area and maintaining regular communication with local champions. TAC Project monthly conference calls and quarterly meetings will begin upon notice of grant award and continue for the duration of the TAC Project term. During these calls and meetings, PMs will convey updates and share input to be discussed and addressed by the TAC Project Team in an appropriate manner. PMs will communicate discussion results.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

TAC Project monthly coordinating calls will commence upon notice of grant receipt, in the Summer of 2019. In the first quarter of the grant term, NBAC will execute contracts for subawards with Coalition Partners, publicly post a Request for Qualifications for contractual services, and will procure contractor(s), in coordination with the Project Budget. 50% of the Phase I ESAs and 30% of the Phase II ESAs will be conducted in Year 1, with the balance of Phase I and Phase II ESAs occurring in Years 2 and 3. The remedial actions plans (RAPs) will begin in Year 2 and be completed in Year 3. Any remaining funds will go towards the completion of additional miscellaneous Phase I and II ESAs.

a. Description of Tasks and Activities

Task 1 - Site Inventory, Prioritization, and Coalition Participation (\$60,115): Led by NBAC, Coalition Partners will set site priorities, identifying sites in the Target Area and matching them up with business/redevelopment entities. The TAC Project Team will first establish site eligibility and then prioritize each site based on: 1) potential to eliminate public health, safety, and environmental issues; 2) eligibility with the project State's voluntary cleanup program; 3) benefit to low/moderate income areas; 4) condition of existing infrastructure available for reuse; and 5) potential redevelopment and job creation opportunities. This task includes staff time to organize and participate in monthly conference calls, quarterly meetings, and other activities, as well as updates and maintenance of the website: <http://gototrails.com>, PEC's GIS web-based site inventory system for I♥Trails. \$60,115 has been budgeted for Coalition Partner PMs, with NBAC oversight: \$20,115 (PM and Director) + \$20,000 (PEC PM) + \$20,000 (OEPA PM) = \$60,115

Task 2 - Phase I & Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (\$400,000): Priority Brownfield Sites of the TAC Project will undergo assessment activities, addressing an estimated 10 sites averaging 5 acres each. This task will be overseen by hired consultant(s) and will include:

- 1) Phase I ESAs: \$5,000 per site x 10 sites = \$50,000
- 2) Quality Assurance/Control Project Plan (QAPP): \$5,000 per site x 10 sites = \$50,000

3) Phase II ESA: \$30,000 per site x 10 sites = \$300,000

Assessment activities will be overseen by a OH, PA, or WV voluntary cleanup program certified professional, with Phase I ESA's in coordination with ASTM E1527-13 and USEPA's All Appropriate Inquiry Standards, with Phase II ESA's in coordination with ASTM E1903-11, and with all activities in coordination with each states' voluntary cleanup program guidance. QAPPs and sampling and analysis plans will be completed for USEPA approval prior to Phase II ESA activities, and site-specific health and safety plans will be conducted prior to any field work. Total Cost: \$50,000 (Phase I ESAs) + \$50,000 (QAPPs) + \$300,000 (Phase II ESAs) = \$400,000

Task 3 - Remedial and End Use Planning (\$35,900): This task will be overseen by hired consultant(s). After completing Phase II Assessments, it is estimated that each site will need Remedial Action Plans (RAP). For this Task, \$17,000 is included for a RAP template which can be adapted for most trail remediation scenarios based on guidance from state agency risk assessors. \$18,900 will be used for 3 or more RAPs for sites adjacent to the trail, as funding allows. These RAPs will also be used to pursue cleanup funds, as identified in *1. Project Area Description and Plans for Revitalization* to leverage USEPA Brownfield Assessment Grant funding.

Task 4 - Community Outreach (\$20,057): For this task, \$20,057 is requested, (\$8,111 Salary + \$1,946 Fringe Benefits) for the NBAC's PM and Director to develop TAC Project materials and preform community outreach. Additionally, \$10,000 is requested for PM travel to the 2019 National Brownfields Conference, WV Brownfields Conferences, PA Brownfields Conferences, and other meetings and events.

Task 5: Programmatic Oversight (\$55,349) For this task, \$44,636 in Salary + \$10,713 in Fringe Benefits = \$55,349 Total is requested, for NBAC staff to lead meetings, manage the site selection and prioritization process, review and evaluate reports and document submittal for USEPA required reporting, and oversee all contracts for technical issues and Quality Assurance and Quality Control.

Task 6: Administrative Costs (\$28,570) For this task, \$28,570 is requested for administrative costs. For this grant, administrative expenses have been calculated at 5% of the total direct cost of the project, as allowed by the solicitation.

b. Cost Estimates and Outputs

Task 1, Site Inventory, Prioritization, and Coalition Coordination - \$60,115

– *Personnel Costs:* \$16,222 Total

• Project Manager: 580 hours at a rate of \$24.81/hour = \$14,390

• Director: 40 hours at a rate of \$45.79/hour = \$1,832

– *Fringe Benefits:* \$16,222 (Personnel Costs) x 24% (Fringe Benefit Rate) = \$3,893

– *Contractual Costs:* \$20,000 (OEPA Participation) + \$20,000 (PEC Participation) = \$40,000

– *Outputs:* 36 conference calls, 12 meetings, and an updated GIS web-based inventory system

Task 2, Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments - \$400,000

– *Contractual Costs:* Phase I(\$5,000) + QAPP(\$5,000) + Phase II(\$30,000) x 10 sites = \$400,000

– *Outputs:* 10 Phase I ESA's and 10 Phase II ESA's

Task 3, Remedial and End Use Planning - \$35,900

– *Contractual Costs:* \$35,900

- *Outputs:* 1 Template (\$17,000) + 3 Site Specific (\$6,300 each x 3 sites) = \$35,900

Task 4, Community Outreach - \$20,057

– *Personnel:* \$8,111 Total

- Project Manager: 290 hours at a rate of \$24.81/hour = \$7,195
- Director: 20 hours at a rate of \$45.79/hour = \$916
- *Fringe Benefits*: \$8,111 (Personnel Costs) x 24% (Fringe Benefit Rate) = \$1,946
- *Travel Costs*: \$10,000 Total
 - To National Brownfields Conference: \$1,500 x 3 project leads = \$4,500
 - Mileage: 72 trips x 131.7 avg miles per trip x 0.58 ('19 GSA Mileage Rate) = \$5,500
- *Outputs*: Participation in National Brownfields Conference by 3 project leads, 36 trips to quarterly meetings, 36 trips to local events, conferences, and meetings

Task 5, Programmatic Oversight - \$55,349

- *Personnel Costs*: \$44,636
 - Project Manager: 1,633 hours at a rate of \$24.81/hour = \$40,515
 - Director: 90 hours at a rate of \$45.79/hour = \$4,121
- *Fringe Benefits Costs*: \$44,636 (Personnel Costs) x 24% (Fringe Benefit Rate) = \$10,713
- *Outputs*: 4 or more sub award contracts and 12 quarterly reports

Task 6, Administrative Costs - \$28,570

- *Indirect Costs*: \$571,410 (Total Requested) x 5% (Administrative Cost Rate) = \$28,570
- *Outputs*: Administration of Project budget.

Project Budget

Budget Categories		Project Tasks (\$)						Total
		Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	
Direct Costs	Personnel	\$16,222			\$8,111	\$44,636		\$68,969
	Fringe Benefits	\$3,893			\$1,946	\$10,713		\$16,552
	Travel ¹				\$10,000			\$10,000
	Equipment ²							
	Supplies							
	Contractual	\$40,000	\$400,000	\$35,900				\$475,900
	Other							
Total Direct Costs ³		\$60,115	\$400,000	\$35,900	\$20,057	\$55,349		\$571,421
Indirect Cost ³							\$28,571	\$28,571
Total Budget (Total Direct Costs + Indirect Costs)		\$60,115	\$400,000	\$35,900	\$20,057	\$55,349	\$28,571	\$599,992
¹ Travel to brownfields-related training conferences is an acceptable use of these grant funds. ² EPA defines equipment as items that cost \$5,000 or more with a useful life of more than one year. Items costing less than \$5,000 are considered supplies. Generally, equipment is not required for Brownfield Grants. ³ Administrative costs (direct and/or indirect) cannot exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds.								

c. Measuring Environmental Results

TAC Project Outputs will be measured and recorded by NBAC's PM throughout the project term. NBAC's strategy for tracking and measuring progress is to 1) Evaluate achievements against milestones established within this grant application, 2) Evaluate whether the grant and projects have redeveloped priority sites and improved local brownfields management fundamentals, such as management, acquisition, and the leveraging of outside dollars; and 3) Document project outcomes and outputs quarterly via the EPA ACRES system as well as in narrative form, to be

shared with community outreach outlets.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

a. Programmatic Capability

i. Organizational Structure

NBAC successfully completes projects by assigning a Project Manager (PM) to coordinate a project team, track project progress, identify potential problems, make necessary corrections, track expenditures, and keep the project on time and within budget. The NBAC Director is often the Principal Investigator (PI) and plays an advisory role to the PM. All NBAC projects require reporting, typically quarterly, annual, and final reports. The PM leads the effort by setting up the report in the agency format, compiling content from the team, and submitting to the agency. WVU Office of Sponsored Programs serves an oversight role. NBAC reports progress on a percent by task basis at least quarterly. Specific milestones are noted with products included in the reports. When a problem occurs, the problem and proposed solution are brought to the attention of the sponsoring agency project manager by phone or email and reported in the quarterly report.

In Summer 2019, before execution of a cooperative agreement with USEPA, NBAC will convene a public meeting to discuss the grant, work with PEC to establish a system for updating the brownfield inventory (gototrails.com) and begin prioritization discussions with the TAC Project Team. NBAC will draft a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with Coalition Partners to establish a plan for distribution of funds and implementation of the assessment work. The coalition will be chaired by PMs from each Coalition Partner organization. NBAC will facilitate monthly conference calls to review updates, prioritize new projects, and organize in-person meetings and additional activities.

In the TAC Project, Patrick Kirby will serve as the PI and Anna Withrow will serve as the PM. Both Patrick and Anna have been involved in the I♥Trails initiative since its inception.

Patrick Kirby, Director of the NBAC since 2006, has built relationships with state and local agencies, promoting the assistance of NBAC through outreach materials, presentations to existing groups, and in-person meetings with state and local officials. Patrick has developed programs receiving over \$2 million in private funding to help communities overcome barriers to community and economic development. Patrick has worked with communities on EPA grants, raising more than \$7 million in direct project funding and offered assistance on more than 150 projects in 60 communities. Patrick's educational background is in Public Policy and Political Science.

Anna Withrow, Brownfield Redevelopment Project Manager at NBAC, works with local project stakeholders to perform site analyses, facilitate visioning meetings, and create conceptual plans to move redevelopment projects forward. Anna has extensive experience with project management, hand rendering, site mapping, site analysis, parcel research, stakeholder engagement, mixed-media design, construction drawing, meeting/event facilitation, and document layout/printing. Anna's educational background is in Landscape Architecture/Environmental Design and Education.

i. Acquiring Additional Resources

As lead of the Coalition, NBAC will go through a procurement process to contract with a highly qualified environmental consultant(s) to address the technical requirements of the project, primarily the Phase I, Phase II, and remedial planning tasks. The NBAC works within the WVU Research Corporation to follow standard processes and procedures in procurement to ensure that all contracts meet the standards of grant requirements and state and federal regulations.

b. Past Performance and Accomplishments

i. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements

(1) Purpose and Accomplishments

Project/Award/Grant Term: Site Ready Program / \$378,000 / 2014 - 2017

Funder: Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

Purpose: This project was a regional effort to accelerate the reuse of former industrial sites in the Ohio River Valley to capitalize on opportunities for brownfields redevelopment in decaying river towns presented by the development of Marcellus Shale play along the Ohio River.

Accomplishments: Provided technical assistance and mini-grants to 10 sites along the Ohio River to complete activities such as appraisals, surveys, assessments, and conceptual renderings to position sites for reuse; leveraged \$46,976,500 in additional private and public funding; created 131 jobs on targeted sites; brought local and regional attention to selected sites; pulled together stakeholders across two states in a region with shared resources, amenities, and opportunities.

Project/Award/Grant Term: Downtown Appalachia / \$235,000 / 2015-2017

Funder: Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

Purpose: Downtown Appalachia worked with local, rural communities to generate micro-level data packages that illustrate rural downtown market needs and feasibility analysis on existing strategically located downtown brownfield properties; fifteen projects in five communities received technical assistance and mini-grant funding to perform market analyses, feasibility studies, site assessments, and other research to prepare sites and market them for redevelopment; a total of sixteen (16) studies were completed. The NBAC worked with local teams to identify specific data needs, develop RFPs and contracts, coordinate with selected consultants, and facilitate community/consultant interactions.

Project/Award/Grant Term: Downtown Appalachia REDI / \$164,908 / 2018-2021

Funder: Natural Capital Investment Fund (NCIF)/Appalachian Regional Commission

Purpose: NBAC partnered with NCIF, with funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission, to provide project development assistance and predevelopment services to developers/building owners to support commercial real estate projects and downtown redevelopment; This project is expected to support a total of \$12 million of investment and 160 jobs; NBAC's role in this project is to foster redevelopment and entrepreneurial activities through hands-on capacity building, provision of targeted technical assistance, and facilitating strategic deployment of the NCIF/ Downtown Appalachia Redevelopment Loan Fund.

(2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

On all projects, NBAC uses the organizational structure outlined above to meet all requirements of the grant, including timelines, deliverables, and reporting. When timelines or budgets have needed adjustment due to project changes, NBAC worked closely with the funder to ensure that all changes were in line with the original purpose of the award and to receive funder approval for those adjustments. In both the Downtown Appalachia and Site Ready programs, adjustments to the timeline were necessary due to staffing changes and circumstances in partner communities. These changes were communicated with the Foundation's program officer regularly, and, when necessary, extensions were requested using established agency processes. NBAC has provided all reports on the above grants, and all its grants, within the reporting deadlines.

Threshold Criteria for Assessment Grants

1. Applicant Eligibility

Lead Applicant:

West Virginia University Research Corporation (WVURC), the lead applicant, is a Nonprofit Organization as demonstrated in the WVURC Letter of Determination.

Coalition Partners:

Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC), a Coalition Partner, is a nonprofit entity as defined in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as demonstrated in the attached PEC Determination Letter. PEC's Coalition Member letter to Lead Applicant and PEC's 501(c)(3) Determination letter demonstrate grant eligibility and project support.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), a Coalition Partner, is a State entity of the State of Ohio. OEPA's Coalition Member letter to Lead Applicant demonstrates project support.

2. Community Involvement

There is a wide stakeholder base, concentrated in the target area of this grant, working to develop trails and adjacent properties, identified as The Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition. Coalition Partners and local stakeholder groups have been participating in planning and networking activities since 2013 to advance the development of IHTC trails and adjacent properties. Activities occurring independently of the IHTC Coalition Assessment Project (the Project) include Semi-Annual IHTC Summits, Quarterly Corridor Working Group Meetings, and special projects, hosted by the Rails to Trails Conservancy, the National Parks Service's Rivers and Trails Conservancy Assistance Program, and PEC (entities identified as Project Partners or Coalition Partners in this proposal).

Coalition Partners will develop promotional materials for the Project, to demonstrate opportunities and guide engagement of local stakeholders. Coalition Partners will engage communities throughout the target area by sharing promotional materials and Project updates at IHTC Summits, Corridor Working Group Meetings, as well as Project or area specific meetings, as needed. Coalition Partners have also made arrangements to promote the Project at annual West Virginia and Pennsylvania Brownfields Conferences for the duration of the Project.

3. Expenditure of Assessment Grant Funds

WVURC does not have an active EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant.

Internal Revenue Service

Date: December 15, 2006

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
CORPORATION
PO BOX 1465
MORGANTOWN WV 26507-1465

Department of the Treasury
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:

Janet M. Duncan 31-07676
Correspondence Specialist/Screeners

Toll Free Telephone Number:

877-829-5500

Federal Identification Number:

55-0665758

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of December 15, 2006, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

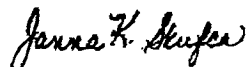
In February 1987 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under section 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Janna K. Skufca, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

P.O. Box 2508, Room 4010
Cincinnati OH 45201

In reply refer to: (b)(6)(b)(6)

Oct. 04, 2018 LTR 4168C 0

(b)(6)(b)(6)(b)(6) 000000 00

00032956

BODC: TE

PENNSYLVANIA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
INC
810 RIVER AVE STE 201
PITTSBURGH PA 15212-5917



016289

Employer ID number: (b)(6)(b)(6)(b)(6)
Form 990 required: Yes

Dear Taxpayer:

We're responding to your request dated Aug. 09, 2018, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in October 1973, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3).

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509(a) because you're described in IRC Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading of this letter, we indicated whether you must file an annual information return. If you're required to file a return, you must file one of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period:

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990-EZ
- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033(j), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

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Oct. 04, 2018 LTR 4168C 0

(b)6(b)6(b)6 000000 00

00032957

PENNSYLVANIA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
INC
810 RIVER AVE STE 201
PITTSBURGH PA 15212-5917

local time, Monday through Friday (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific time).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen A. Martin

Stephen A. Martin
Director, EO Rulings & Agreements



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

December 27, 2018

Patrick Kirby, Director
Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center
West Virginia Water Research Institute
West Virginia University
P.O. Box 6065
Morgantown, WV 26501

RE: Industrial Heartland Trails Brownfield Assessment Coalition US EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Patrick:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) is pleased to participate in a coalition with the Northern West Virginia Brownfield Assistance Center (NBAC) and Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) to submit a Coalition Assessment Grant proposal. The Coalition is requesting a \$600,000 coalition grant to address hazardous substance and/or petroleum contaminated brownfield sites located on a network of abandoned railway corridors designated by the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition (IHTC). This opportunity will be used to transform the region into a tourism destination through the cleanup and redevelopment of the network corridors as a rail-trail system.

Ohio EPA has an established brownfield assistance program that has supported local community projects through outreach, targeted brownfield assessments, and technical assistance. Our Voluntary Action Program provides applicable standards and a regulatory end point for brownfield cleanups. We routinely collaborate with the various funding sources in Ohio to leverage assistance for brownfield projects.

Ohio EPA utilizes its US EPA 128(a) grant funds to provide brownfield assistance to communities and their priority projects. Direct assistance is provided by environmental contractors retained by the State of Ohio to perform Phase I/II assessments, geophysical screening, asbestos surveys, and remedial action planning. These tools are used to provide due diligence for property transactions, determination of contaminant impacts at a property, and cleanup options to assist local decision makers on their brownfield projects. Many of projects have successfully leveraged cleanup funds from Ohio's Abandoned Gas Station program, Jobs Ohio Revitalization, Ohio Brownfield Fund, and US EPA Brownfield Grants.

Ohio has an established rail to trail system that provides connectivity and improved quality of life both within and between communities. This proposal will share this success with the

communities of eastern Ohio and Appalachia where local governments and organizations lack the capacity to request funding and implement brownfield projects on their own. Furthermore, our brownfield program has recent experience with rail-trail redevelopment in the region. We provided assessments for a railway property acquisition near Belpre, Ohio and to support the preservation of the historic 1870 sandstone viaduct in Bellaire, Ohio. We want to continue to build on the success of these projects.

Over the last two years, Ohio EPA completed 25 investigations at former gas station sites utilizing state and federal funding including 128a state response grants and a US EPA, FFY16 Community-Wide \$200,000 assessment grant (now depleted). Each assessment project can leverage up to \$100,000 for assessment or \$500,000 for cleanup from the AGS program. To date, these projects have successfully leveraged over \$2.2 million in cleanup funding. Abandoned gas stations along the railway corridor could potentially take advantage of these funds as well. The Clean Ohio Fund for Recreational Trails is an additional funding source in Ohio for land acquisition and trail development.

Ohio EPA fully supports NBAC's application for this grant. We will participate with coalition members to establish site priorities, assessment support, remedial/end use planning, and community outreach. Ohio EPA will work with NBAC to establish a memorandum of agreement should a grant be awarded.

We look forward to working with the coalition to address brownfield properties in eastern Ohio. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my brownfield staff: Lisa Shook at (614) 644-2295 or Dan Tjoelker at (614) 644-3750.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig W. Butler", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Craig W. Butler, Director
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency



pennsylvania environmental council

December 26, 2018

Patrick Kirby, Director
Northern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center
West Virginia Water Research Institute
West Virginia University
PO Box 6065
Morgantown, WV 26501

RE: Industrial Heartland Trails Brownfield Assessment Coalition US EPA Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Patrick:

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) is pleased to participate in a coalition with the Northern West Virginia Brownfield Assistance Center (NBAC) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) to submit a Coalition Assessment Grant proposal. The Coalition is requesting a \$600,000 coalition grant to address hazardous substance and/or petroleum contaminated brownfield sites located on a network of abandoned railway corridors designated by the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition (IHTC). This opportunity will be used to transform the region into a tourism destination through the cleanup and redevelopment of the network corridors as a rail-trail system.

PEC has been a lead partner in the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition since inception, a multi-state coalition of trail advocates including government, non-profits, and philanthropies working to create a shared-use system of trails that will ultimately connect 51 counties in western Pennsylvania, New York, eastern Ohio, and West Virginia. IHTC stakeholders are united by a shared vision of trail-linked communities comprising a larger regional destination, allowing local and visiting trail users to bike from trail-to-trail, city-to-city, and town-to-town. PEC believes that experiencing the region's rich resources promotes commitment to conservation and engages residents and visitors alike in an ethic of environmental stewardship. PEC's role in these collaborative efforts is to provide technical assistance to local trail organizations to realize the full range of benefits that can come from such projects. Many of the former rail corridors have long been neglected and unused, because the community does not have the resources to be undertake the remediation process. This collaborative effort to provide assessment funds along with that technical expertise will go a long way towards addressing the industrial legacy that remains.

In 2018, PEC received a \$72,000 planning grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission's POWER program to conduct a feasibility study on two corridors of the IHTC in Pennsylvania. The goal of that study is to determine the planning needs on the remaining trail gaps and prioritize them for future implementation funding. Multiple projects will need to develop remediation strategies before they move to towards construction, and the proposed coalition assessment grant will allow multiple projects to move that much closer to completion. PEC is hopeful that participation in this assessment grant will accelerate many projects along these corridors, building momentum towards the eventual 1500-mile network.

810 River Avenue, Suite 201 • Pittsburgh, PA 15212 • 412-481-9400
1315 Walnut Street, Suite 532 • Philadelphia, PA 19107 • 215-545-4570
175 Main Street • Luzerne, PA 18709 • 570-718-6507
103 East Beaver Avenue, Suite 9 • State College, PA 16804 • 814-234-7765
3915-917 Union Deposit Road • Harrisburg, PA 17109



pennsylvania environmental council

PEC fully supports NBAC's application for this grant. We will participate with coalition members to establish site priorities, assessment support, remedial/end use planning, and community outreach. PEC will work with NBAC to establish a memorandum of agreement should a grant be awarded.

We look forward to working with the coalition to address brownfield properties in Western Pennsylvania. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Trails Program Staff: Frank Maguire (814) 441-7865 or Chris Corbran (412) 481-9400

Sincerely,

Davitt Woodwell, President
Pennsylvania Environmental Council

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

01/30/2019

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: West Virginia University Research Corporation

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

(b) (6)

* c. Organizational DUNS:

1915102390000

d. Address:

* Street1: 886 Chestnut Ridge Road

Street2: PO Box 6845

* City: Morgantown

County/Parish:

* State:

WV: West Virginia

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code: 26506-6845

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

WVU Energy Institute

Division Name:

WV Water Research Institute

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

* First Name:

John

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Childress

Suffix:

Title: Director

Organizational Affiliation:

WVU Research Corporation

* Telephone Number: 304-293-3998

Fax Number:

* Email: jtchildress@mail.wvu.edu

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

M: Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Environmental Protection Agency

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

66.818

CFDA Title:

Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-06

* Title:

FY19 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANTS

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

IHTC Assessment Coalition

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="599,992.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="599,992.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- ☒ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed: